



## **WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH GRANT PROPOSAL**

**Project ID:** 2002AZ1B

**Title:** The Impacts of Ungulates on Vegetation Associated With Water Catchments

**Project Type:** Research

**Focus Categories:** Ecology, Management and Planning, Surface Water

**Keywords:** birds, plant stress, range management, riparian vegetation, wildlife management

**Start Date:** 03/01/2002

**End Date:** 02/28/2003

**Federal Funds Requested:** \$11,325

**Non-Federal Matching Funds Requested:** \$22,649

**Congressional District:** 14

**Principal Investigator:**

Paul Krausman

University of Arizona

**Abstract**

Wildlife managers in the Southwestern United States often consider water a limiting factor for desert wildlife. As a result, thousands of water catchments have been created throughout the Southwest for wildlife since the 1930s. However, the influence of water catchments on wildlife have only recently been evaluated and there is no published literature indicating how the vegetation is influenced by wildlife that use the water sources. Understanding the relationship is important as vegetation is critical to maintenance of viable populations. If water catchments are attracting more ungulates to an area that are damaging vegetation, the net result would be detrimental instead of beneficial to the population. My objective is to determine if and how desert ungulates influence vegetation associated with water catchments in the Southwest.